Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 IO-13 OMB-01 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 DHA-02 ORM-02 /105 W

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P R 281053Z JUN 77 FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9555 INFO OAU CONFERENCE COLLECTIVE AMEMBASSY MOSCOW USLO PEKING

CONFIDENTIAL LIBREVILLE 1600

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PORG, OAU

SUBJ: ZIMBABWE ISSUE IN OAU POLITICAL COMMITTEE

- 1. OAU POLITICAL COMMITTEE TOOK UP ZIMBABWE ISSUE JUNE 27 AND WAS ADDRESSED BY SPEAKERS FROM SOUTHERN AFRICAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS.
- 2. WHILE SPEAKERS WERE ENJOINED TO LIMIT DISCUSSION TO INFORMATION CONCERNING LIBERATION ACTIVITIES AND SPECIFICALLY INSTRUCTED NOT TO DISCUSS QUESTION OF RECOGNITION OF PATRIOTIC FRONT, BISHOP MUZOREWA USED OCCASION TO TAKE OFFENSIVE. SPEAKING WITHOUT NOTES, MUZOREWA ARGUED THAT PATRIOTIC FRONT CONTENTION THAT ANC ZIMBABWE DID NOT HAVE ARMY WAS NOT TRUE AND STATED ANC IS ALSO ENGAGED IN ARMED STRUGGLE. HE STATED HE HAD PROBLEM AND ASKED RHETORICALLY FOR POLITICAL COMMITTEE'S WISHES RE ANC. WAS HE TO DISBAND ORGANIZATION WHICH HAD SUPPORT OF 90 PERCENT OF PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE, HE ASKED. (COMMENT: HIS QUESTION NOT ANSWERED BY COMMITTEE.)

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- 3. PATRIOTIC FRONT SPOKESMAN GAVE STATISTICS ON INCREASE IN WHITE RHODESIAN EMIGRES AND REPORTED ON ACTIVITIES OF FRONT. HE STRESSED FRONT'S MILITARY ACTIVITIES AND EXPRESSED FRONT'S COMMITMENT TO ARMED STRUGGLE AS ONLY SOLUTION.
- 4. COMMENT: EMBASSY RECEIVING REPORTS OF INTENSE

LOBBYING BY ZAIRE, GAMBIA, MOROCCO, IVORY COAST AND MAURITANIA AGAINST OAU RECOGNITION OF PATRIOTIC FRONT AS SOLE REPRESENTATIVE OF PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE. SPECULATION MOUNTING ON CLAS BETWEEN MODERATES AND RADICALS OVER THIS ISSUE. WE HAVE ALSO HEARD STORY OF POSSIBLE SPLIT BETWEEN JOSHUA NKOMO AND ROBERT MUGABE, WITH RUMOR HAVING MUGABE DISGRUNTLED OVER SOVIET EFFORTS TO INSTALL NKOMO AND TURNING TO CHINESE FOR SUPPORT. THIS STORY, HOWEVER, IS STILL UNCONFIRMED. STEIGMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a **Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED**

Concepts: RECOGNITION, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, LIBERATION FRONTS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 28-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am

Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LIBREV01600
Document Source: 10.00

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D770230-0417 Format: TEL

From: LIBREVILLE Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770611/aaaaajlg.tel

Line Count: 72 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: 45189e73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION AF

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 12-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2011398 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: ZIMBABWE ISSUE IN OAU POLITICAL COMMITTEE

TAGS: PORG, RH, OAU, (MUZOREWA, ABEL)

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/45189e73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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